



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 37**

*January Session, 2005*

House Bill No. 6730

*House of Representatives, March 16, 2005*

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. STONE, C. of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF PLUMBING AND PIPING WORK FOR PURPOSES OF LICENSURE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-330 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Contractor" means any person regularly offering to the general  
5 public services of such person or such person's employees in the field  
6 of electrical work, plumbing and piping work, solar work, heating,  
7 piping, cooling and sheet metal work, fire protection sprinkler systems  
8 work, elevator installation, repair and maintenance work, irrigation  
9 work, automotive glass work or flat glass work, as defined in this  
10 section;

11 (2) "Electrical work" means the installation, erection, maintenance,  
12 alteration or repair of any wire, cable, conduit, busway, raceway,

13 support, insulator, conductor, appliance, apparatus, fixture or  
14 equipment that generates, transforms, transmits or uses electrical  
15 energy for light, heat, power or other purposes, but does not include  
16 low voltage wiring, not exceeding twenty-four volts, used within a  
17 lawn sprinkler system;

18 (3) "Plumbing and piping work" means the installation, repair,  
19 replacement, alteration or maintenance of gas, water and associated  
20 fixtures, laboratory equipment, sanitary equipment, other than  
21 subsurface sewage disposal systems, fire prevention apparatus, all  
22 water systems for human usage, sewage treatment facilities and all  
23 associated fittings within a building and includes lateral storm and  
24 sanitary lines from buildings to the mains, process piping, swimming  
25 pools and pumping equipment, and includes making connections to  
26 back flow prevention devices, and includes low voltage wiring, not  
27 exceeding twenty-four volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system, but  
28 does not include (A) solar work, except for the repair of those portions  
29 of a solar hot water heating system that include the basic domestic hot  
30 water tank and the tie-in to the potable water system, (B) the  
31 installation, repair, replacement, alteration or maintenance of fire  
32 prevention apparatus within a structure, except for standpipes that are  
33 not connected to sprinkler systems, and (C) medical gas and vacuum  
34 systems work. For the purposes of this subdivision, "process piping"  
35 means piping or tubing that conveys liquid or gas that is used directly  
36 in the production of a chemical or a product for human consumption;

37 (4) "Solar work" means the installation, repair, replacement,  
38 alteration or maintenance of an active, passive or hybrid solar hot  
39 water heating system;

40 (5) "Heating, piping and cooling work" means (A) the installation,  
41 repair, replacement, maintenance or alteration of any apparatus for  
42 piping, appliances, devices or accessories for heating systems,  
43 including sheet metal work, and (B) the installation, repair,  
44 replacement, maintenance or alteration of air conditioning and  
45 refrigeration systems, boilers, including apparatus and piping for the

46 generation or conveyance of steam and associated pumping  
47 equipment and process piping. Heating, piping and cooling work does  
48 not include solar work or medical gas and vacuum systems work. For  
49 the purposes of this subdivision, "process piping" means piping or  
50 tubing that conveys liquid or gas that is used directly in the production  
51 of a chemical or a product for human consumption;

52 (6) "Apprentice" means any person registered with the Labor  
53 Department for the purpose of learning a skilled trade;

54 (7) "Elevator installation, repair and maintenance work" means the  
55 installation, erection, maintenance and repair of all types of elevators,  
56 dumb waiters, escalators, and moving walks and all mechanical  
57 equipment, fittings, associated piping and wiring from a source of  
58 supply brought to the equipment room by an unlimited electrical  
59 contractor for all types of machines used to hoist or convey persons or  
60 materials, but does not include temporary hoisting machines used for  
61 hoisting materials in connection with any construction job or project;

62 (8) "Elevator maintenance" means the lubrication, inspection and  
63 replacement of controls, hoistway and car parts;

64 (9) "Fire protection sprinkler systems work" means the layout, on-  
65 site fabrication, installation, alteration, maintenance or repair of any  
66 automatic or manual sprinkler system designed for the protection of  
67 the interior or exterior of a building or structure from fire, or any  
68 piping or tubing and appurtenances and equipment pertaining to such  
69 system including overhead and underground water mains, fire  
70 hydrants and hydrant mains, standpipes and hose connections to  
71 sprinkler systems, sprinkler tank heaters excluding electrical wiring,  
72 air lines and thermal systems used in connection with sprinkler and  
73 alarm systems connected thereto, foam extinguishing systems or  
74 special hazard systems including water spray, foam, carbon dioxide or  
75 dry chemical systems, halon and other liquid or gas fire suppression  
76 systems, but does not include (A) any engineering design work  
77 connected with the layout of fire protection sprinkler systems, or (B)  
78 any work performed by employees of or contractors hired by a public

79 water system, as defined in subsection (a) of section 25-33d;

80 (10) "State Fire Marshal" means the State Fire Marshal or any  
81 member of the Division of State Police to whom the Commissioner of  
82 Public Safety has delegated powers under section 29-291;

83 (11) "Journeyman sprinkler fitter" means a specialized pipe fitter  
84 craftsman, experienced and skilled in the installation, alteration,  
85 maintenance and repair of fire protection sprinkler systems;

86 (12) "Irrigation work" means making the connections to back flow  
87 prevention devices, and low voltage wiring, not exceeding twenty-four  
88 volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system;

89 (13) "Sheet metal work" means the installation, erection,  
90 replacement, repair or alteration of duct work systems, both ferrous  
91 and nonferrous;

92 (14) "Journeyman sheet metal worker" means an experienced  
93 craftsman skilled in the installation, erection, replacement, repair or  
94 alteration of duct work systems, both ferrous and nonferrous;

95 (15) "Automotive glass work" means installing, maintaining or  
96 repairing fixed glass in motor vehicles;

97 (16) "Flat glass work" means installing, maintaining or repairing  
98 glass in residential or commercial structures; and

99 (17) "Medical gas and vacuum systems work" means the work and  
100 practice, materials, instrumentation and fixtures used in the  
101 construction, installation, alteration, extension, removal, repair,  
102 maintenance or renovation of gas and vacuum systems and equipment  
103 used solely to transport gases for medical purposes and to remove  
104 liquids, air-gases or solids from such systems.

105 Sec. 2. Section 20-340 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
106 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

107 The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to: (1) Persons

108 employed by any federal, state or municipal agency; (2) employees of  
109 any public service company regulated by the Department of Public  
110 Utility Control or of any corporate affiliate of any such company when  
111 the work performed by such affiliate is on behalf of a public service  
112 company, but in either case only if the work performed is in  
113 connection with the rendition of public utility service, including the  
114 installation or maintenance of wire for community antenna television  
115 service, or is in connection with the installation or maintenance of wire  
116 or telephone sets for single-line telephone service located inside the  
117 premises of a consumer; (3) employees of any municipal corporation  
118 specially chartered by this state; (4) employees of any contractor while  
119 such contractor is performing electrical-line or emergency work for  
120 any public service company; (5) persons engaged in the installation,  
121 maintenance, repair and service of electrical or other appliances of a  
122 size customarily used for domestic use where such installation  
123 commences at an outlet receptacle or connection previously installed  
124 by persons licensed to do the same and maintenance, repair and  
125 service is confined to the appliance itself and its internal operation; (6)  
126 employees of industrial firms whose main duties concern the  
127 maintenance of the electrical work, plumbing and piping work, solar  
128 work, heating, piping, cooling work, sheet metal work, elevator  
129 installation, repair and maintenance work, automotive glass work or  
130 flat glass work of such firm on its own premises or on premises leased  
131 by it for its own use; (7) employees of industrial firms when such  
132 employees' main duties concern the fabrication of glass products or  
133 electrical, plumbing and piping, fire protection sprinkler systems,  
134 solar, heating, piping, cooling, sheet metal or elevator installation,  
135 repair and maintenance equipment used in the production of goods  
136 sold by industrial firms, except for products, electrical, plumbing and  
137 piping systems and repair and maintenance equipment used directly  
138 in the production of a chemical or a product for human consumption;  
139 (8) persons performing work necessary to the manufacture or repair of  
140 any apparatus, appliances, fixtures, equipment or devices produced by  
141 it for sale or lease; (9) employees of stage and theatrical companies  
142 performing the operation, installation and maintenance of electrical

143 equipment if such installation commences at an outlet receptacle or  
144 connection previously installed by persons licensed to make such  
145 installation; (10) employees of carnivals, circuses or similar transient  
146 amusement shows who install electrical work, provided such  
147 installation shall be subject to the approval of the State Fire Marshal  
148 prior to use as otherwise provided by law and shall comply with  
149 applicable municipal ordinances and regulations; (11) persons engaged  
150 in the installation, maintenance, repair and service of glass or electrical,  
151 plumbing, fire protection sprinkler systems, solar, heating, piping,  
152 cooling and sheet metal equipment in and about single-family  
153 residences owned and occupied or to be occupied by such persons;  
154 provided any such installation, maintenance and repair shall be subject  
155 to inspection and approval by the building official of the municipality  
156 in which such residence is located and shall conform to the  
157 requirements of the State Building Code; (12) persons who install,  
158 maintain or repair glass in a motor vehicle owned or leased by such  
159 persons; (13) persons or entities holding themselves out to be retail  
160 sellers of glass products, but not such persons or entities that also  
161 engage in automotive glass work or flat glass work; (14) persons who  
162 install preglazed or preassembled windows or doors in residential or  
163 commercial buildings; (15) persons registered under chapter 400 who  
164 install safety-backed mirror products or repair or replace flat glass in  
165 sizes not greater than thirty square feet in residential buildings; and  
166 (16) sheet metal work performed in residential buildings consisting of  
167 six units or less by new home construction contractors registered  
168 pursuant to chapter 399a, by home improvement contractors registered  
169 pursuant to chapter 400 or by persons licensed pursuant to this  
170 chapter, when such work is limited to exhaust systems installed for  
171 hoods and fans in kitchens and baths, clothes dryer exhaust systems,  
172 radon vent systems, fireplaces, fireplace flues, masonry chimneys or  
173 prefabricated metal chimneys rated by the Underwriter's Laboratory  
174 or installation of stand-alone appliances including wood, pellet or  
175 other stand-alone stoves that are installed in residential buildings by  
176 such contractors or persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-330
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-340

**GL**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

#### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Potential Significant	Potential Significant

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

#### ***Explanation***

The bill broadens the category of people who need to obtain a plumbing contractor or journeyman license or a heating, piping, and cooling contractor or journeyman license from the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). Currently, there are 10,323 plumbing contractor and journeymen licenses active in the state. Additionally, there are 8,188 heating, piping, and cooling contractor and journeymen licenses active in the state. In FY 04, DCP collected \$636,520 in plumbing contractor and journeymen license fees, and collected \$795,778 in heating, piping, and cooling contractor and journeymen license fees. Since the bill requires a vast category of industrial firm employees to obtain such licenses, the bill could result in a significant revenue gain to DCP.



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**OLR Bill Analysis**

HB 6730

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF PLUMBING AND PIPING WORK FOR PURPOSES OF LICENSURE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires people who install, repair, replace, alter, or maintain piping or tubing that conveys liquid or gas used to make chemicals to be licensed as (1) plumbing contractors or journeymen or (2) heating, piping, and cooling contractors or journeymen.

The law generally exempts from licensing industrial firm employees whose main duties concern making glass products or certain systems or equipment used to produce goods sold by industrial firms unless the work is performed on pipes or tubes used to convey liquid or gas used to produce human food. The bill similarly requires those workers to hold a plumbing and piping work license or a heating, piping, and cooling license if the work is performed on pipes or tubes used directly in the production of chemicals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2005

**BACKGROUND*****Occupational Licensing System***

State law establishes a licensing system for several trades overseen by different licensing boards, including the Examining Board and the Examining Board for Plumbing and Piping Work and the Examining Board for Heating, Piping, Cooling and Sheet Metal Work. They have the power to determine who qualifies for a license and to enforce standards by disciplining licensees. Boards may create limited licenses authorizing their holders to work in a specific area of a trade. Each trade has different levels of expertise—apprentice, journeyman, and contractor. Workers must meet education, training, and experience requirements to qualify for each level. The boards establish less extensive requirements for workers attempting to qualify for limited licenses. The boards are within the Department of Consumer

Protection. The department receives complaints, carries out investigations, and performs administrative tasks, such as physically issuing licenses and renewals, for the boards.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 12      Nay 0